

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1A
SUBJECT	The 9 Branch Unit in North Korea	DATE DISTR.	17 March 1953	
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PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REFERENCES		

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SOURCE:

1. In September the Combined Chinese Communist-North Korean 9 Branch Unit of the 81 Unit, of the North Korean 526 Army Unit,¹ comprised 1,000 North Korean army personnel and 2,000 Chinese Communist army personnel.² The mission of this unit was to conduct guerrilla operations and counterintelligence activities against the South Koreans.
2. In September the headquarters of the 9 Branch Unit comprised the political, security, staff, strategic operations, medical, and rear services bureaus. The 9 Branch Unit had six companies, of which the 2 and 3 Companies were North Korean and the others Chinese Communist. There were political, security, staff, medical, and rear service sections in each of the company headquarters.
3. In September the headquarters of the 9 Branch Unit had a strength of 420 persons, comprising four Chinese and seven Korean officers and 200 Chinese and 209 Korean enlisted men. The 1, 4, 5, and 6 Companies had a strength of 440 men each, comprising 30 Chinese officers, 380 Chinese enlisted men, and 30 Korean interpreters. The 2 and 3 Companies both had a strength of 410 men, comprising 30 Korean officers and 380 Korean enlisted men.
4. In September the commander of the 9 Branch Unit was LI Chi-shan (2621/1015/0810), a 40-year old Chinese. The deputy commander was KIM Se-chong (6855/0013/1350), a 40-year old native of Kyonggi Province. LI Jung-hsia (2621/1369/1115), a 35-year old native of Shantung Province, was political commissar; YANG Chae-u (2733/0961/4368) commanded the 2 Company; and YI Chung-son (2621/6850/0810) commanded the 3 Company.

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5. On 20 November the headquarters of the 9 Branch Unit was near Ch'ongnyong-dong (N 38-18, E 125-26) (YC-1341), at approximately YC-125414, where it had been since [REDACTED]. The nine companies³ of the unit were disposed as follows: the 1 Company near Sulgum-dong (N 37-54, E 125-42) (YB-3798), at YB-373987; the 2 Company at approximately N 37-56, E 125-39 (YC-342002); the 3 Company near Soksong-ni (N 38-29, E 125-23) (YC-0862), at YC-079619; the 4 Company near Samsong-ni (N 38-30, E 125-21) (YC-0563), at YC-047625; the 5 Company near Such'ong-dong (N 38-16, E 125-29) (YC-1738), at YC-174377; the 6 Company near Yongyon-dong (N 38-16, E 125-28) (YC-1638), at YC-155376; the 7 Company near Onjong-ni (N 38-34, E 125-26) (YC-1271), at YC-123713; the 8 Company at approximately YC-101717; and the 9 Company near Songhwa (N 38-22, E 125-08) (XC-8648), at approximately XC-8647.

6. In November the members of the 9 Branch Unit were undergoing combat training and were charged with the defense of the rear areas. Soviet advisers were assigned to the headquarters of the unit. Troops of the unit, all of whom wore Chinese Communist army uniforms, were housed in groups of five or six in village houses.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] the 9 Branch Unit was reorganized in early [REDACTED] was subordinate to the North Korean 526 Army Unit, also known as the Guerrilla Guidance Bureau. [REDACTED] reported the 9 Branch Unit as subordinate to the 81 Unit, as does the present report.

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- [REDACTED] Comment. According to [REDACTED] the 9 Branch Unit was subordinate to the 526 Unit.

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2.

[REDACTED]

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. Note the discrepancy between the number of companies assigned the 9 Branch Unit in this paragraph and the number in paragraph 3. [REDACTED] reported six companies in the unit.

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